

COLORADO MEDICAID EHR INCENTIVE PROGRAM

PROGRAM UPDATE



February 18, 2015

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Department) continues to accept attestations for the Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. In Program Year 2012, more than \$63 million in incentive payments were made to eligible health care professionals and hospitals for the adoption, implementation or upgrade (AIU) and Meaningful Use (MU) of certified EHR technology and payments for Program Year 2013 total more than \$48 million while Program Year 2014 payments total more than \$5.6 million.

Extended Deadlines for the 2014 Program Year

Deadlines for EPs and EHs to finish and submit attestation for 2014 have been extended. Please note that these deadlines will not be moving, so please plan accordingly.

- EH 2014 deadline: Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 10:00 pm MT
- EP 2014 deadline: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 10:00 pm MT

The Department highly recommends that EPs do not wait until the end of March to submit an attestation. Colorado received over 750 attestations in the last month of the program year in 2013 equating to more than 50% of the total attestations. The sooner an EP submits an attestation, the sooner it will be reviewed and paid. Waiting until the end of March will result in slower review and payment timeframes.

CMS Announces Proposed Changes to the EHR Incentive Programs in 2015

In late January 2015, CMS announced intent to engage in rulemaking in Spring 2015, which may have major impacts on the EHR Incentive Program. As soon as CMS releases the proposed rule, CORHIO will send an announcement and explanation of the changes. These are only *proposed changes* at this time.

- Shortening the 2015 reporting period to 90 days
- Realigning hospital reporting periods to the calendar year
- Modifying other aspects of the program to match long-term goals



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Updated Anticipated Timeline - Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

| Event | Status/Expected Date |
|---|----------------------------|
| CO R&A System begins accepting Medicaid & Medicare Meaningful Use attestations | Now Open! |
| CO R&A System opens for EHs to attest to Meaningful Use for FFY 2013 | Program Year is now closed |
| CO R&A System opens for EPs to attest to Meaningful Use for calendar year 2013 | Program Year is now closed |
| First incentive payments issued to EPs who successfully attested to Medicaid Stage 1 Meaningful Use | Paid! |
| First incentive payments issues to EHs who successfully attested to Medicaid Stage 1 Meaningful Use | Paid! |
| CO R&A System opens for EHs to attest to 2014 Stage 1 and Stage 2 Meaningful Use for FFY 2014 | Now Open! |
| CO R&A System opens for EPs to attest to 2014 Stage 1 for program year 2014 | Now Open! |
| CO R&A System opens for EPs and EHs to attest to 2013 Stage 1 Objectives for the 2014 Flexibility Rule | January 2015 |

Medicaid Program Point of Contact and Partnerships

The Department has partnered with CORHIO to provide program coordination and assist with provider communications and outreach regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator will be the central point of contact for EPs, EHs, partners and other interested parties on requirements, processes and questions regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator, Tracy McDonald, can be reached at MedicaidEHR@corhio.org or 720.285.3232.

Xerox (formerly Affiliated Computer Services) has been contracted by the Department to manage the Provider Outreach Page and to provide the Colorado R&A System, including the web portal through which eligible providers can register and attest to receive the EHR incentive payments.